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Press Release

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ATTORNEY GENERAL DARRELL V. McGRAW, JR. AND THE UNITED STATES CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION ANNOUNCE HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

Attorney General Darrell V. McGraw, Jr. and the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission have established safety tips to help prevent injuries to children this Halloween. Halloween-related accidents involve burns from flammable costumes ignited by open flame items such as candles and jack-o'-lanterns, injuries from improperly fitted costumes, and eating treats before an adult has examined them.

"Most holiday injuries can be prevented," said Attorney General McGraw. "I want every child to enjoy Halloween traditions safely. The tips that we are promoting are common sense rules that could save you and your family from unnecessary tragedy."

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

An adult should accompany children.

Visit homes where the residents are known and have inside and outside lights on as a sign of welcome.

Warn children not to eat treats until they have been examined. Treats should be wrapped and sealed.

Examine novelty items and do not allow children under the age of three to have any items that are small enough to present a choking hazard.

Purchase only flame-resistant fabrics or look for the "Flame Resistant" label when purchasing costumes, masks, beards and wigs.

Make costumes light, bright and clearly visible to motorists. Use reflective tape for greater visibility.

Carry flashlights to see and be seen.

Make sure costumes fit properly, provide adequate ventilation, and have eye holes large enough to allow full vision. Consider using make-up instead of a mask.

Keep candles and jack-o'-laterns away from locations where costumes could brush against the flame.

Remove obstacles from lawns, steps and porches when expecting trick-or-treaters.